NEW-ENGLAND FARMER.

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MANURES.

1. *Of Animal and Vegetable Manures.*

Decaying animal and vegetable substances are by far the most useful class of manures. We shall consider the theory of their operation, their specific kinds, their preservation and application to the soil.

We have already stated as a general principle, that no solid substance can pass into the organs of plants in a solid state. And it is equally certain, that the proper food of plants is either such substances as are soluble, or such as are capable of being converted into æriform matter.

It has been found by universal experience, that animal and vegetable substances deposited in a soil, are consumed during the process of vegetation, and they can only nourish the plant by affording substances capable of being dissolved by water, or gaseous matter; but, the gaseous substances pass into the atmosphere, and therefore must produce but a small effect, as they are soon mixed with the surrounding air. The great object then, in the application of manures, should be to make them afford as much soluble matter as possible to the roots of vegetables, in a slow and gradual manner, so that it may be entirely consumed by the plant in forming its organizable parts.

There are but few vegetable substances which in their natural state are soluble; therefore, they must undergo some change to fit them for the food of plants.

If any fresh vegetable matter which contains sugar, mucilage, starch, or other vegetable compound, which is soluble in water, be moistened and exposed to a temperature of 55° to 80° in the air, oxygen gas will be absorbed, and carbonic acid gas *(fixed air)* will be given out; heat will be generated, and then several kinds of gases will be evolved, and a sour or bitter dark-colored liquid will be formed; and if the process continue sufficiently long, nothing solid will remain, except earthy and saline matter. In proportion as there is more matter soluble in water, other circumstances being equal, will the process be more rapid. It is in this manner that all vegetable substances are reduced to a fit state for becoming the food of plants—in other words, *rotted.* Pure woody fibre undergoes this change but slowly, unless mixed with some substances which are very liable to change and rot. Every known vegetable substance may thus be reduced to other substances which are soluble in water, and therefore may be used as manure. Animal matters are more liable to these changes than vegetable substances; oxygen is absorbed and fixed air ammonia *(hartshorn)* are given out during the process. The produce, as is well known, are various fetid gases, dark-colored acid and oily liquids.

From the above considerations, it is evident that whenever a manure consists already of matter soluble in water, it should not be permitted to ferment, or as farmers express it, it should not be allowed to *heat*; and the only cases in which these processes can be useful, are, when the matters consist principally of substances which are not soluble in water, such as wood. To prevent manures from decomposing or *heating*, they should be kept from water as much as possible; hence the utility of manure sheds, which are beginning to come into fashion; manures should also be kept as free as possible from the air, and cool. Common salt and spirits, it is well known, will preserve meat and vegetable substances, because they attract the moisture from them and prevent the decomposing effects of water.

Of the Specific Kinds of Animal and Vegetable Manures.

The difference between the various kinds of manure is of very great importance to the farmer, and should be clearly and distinctly known by every cultivator of the soil, because different manures contain different proportions of those elements which are necessary for the food of vegetables, and of course require a different treatment to enable them to produce their full effect when applied to a soil.

Green, juicy plants contain much saccharine *(sweet)* and mucilaginous *(gummy)* matter, and of course readily undergo fermentation, which will break down and render soluble the woody and hard parts of the plants. When intended, therefore, for manure, they cannot be used too green, in order that they may *heat* in the soil, and thereby prevent the escape and waste of their useful parts. Green plants contain the largest quantity of easily soluble matter when they are in flower, or just before. Green plants, pond weeds, sods, &c., require no preparation to fit them for manure, and if buried in the soil, the soluble matters are slowly dissolved, and the slow manner in which they rot or decompose, prevents the loss of elastic matter, owing to the want of a free communication of air.

From a proper consideration of the above principles, we may see the utility of sowing seed, raising plants, and plowing them into the soil, to answer as manure for succeeding crops.

Sea-weeds, consisting of different kinds of sea-plants, are extensively used as a manure on our sea-coast. Those who have used this substance as a manure, know that it answers for but a single crop, which is easily accounted for from the large quantity of water which it contains. It is evident, then, that sea-weeds, as a manure, should be used as green as possible; fermentation destroys the greater part of their nutritive qualities for the food of plants.

Dry straw, spoiled hay, cornstalks, &c., in all cases are useful manures. It is customary with our farmers to rot these substances before using them, by which means the greater portion of their parts which are soluble, is destroyed and lost. Fermentation will render straw a more manageable manure, and when intended for a single crop, it is better; but the soil is less improved than it would be, if the whole of the vegetable matter were finely chopped and mixed with the soil dry. In this case it would rot in the soil without any loss.

Woody fibre, such as tanners' spent bark, chips, saw-dust, &c. seems to be the only vegetable matter which needs fermentation or rotting, to fit it to become vegetable food. These substances are very retentive of moisture, and therefore cannot be easily rotted without the assistance of some other substance which will ferment, such as dung.

Peaty matters, which contain roots and other vegetable substances, remain for years exposed to air and water, and yet will not heat and rot; therefore, such substances, in their natural state, cannot afford plants much nourishment. The best mode of bringing such substances into matter fit for the nourishment of plants, is to mix them thoroughly with common farm-yard dung. One part of dung is considered sufficient to bring four parts of peaty matter into a state fit to be applied to land. The more such mixtures heat, and the more readily it ferments, the better will it be fitted for the purpose. If a quantity of living vegetable substances be mixed with the peat, the more rapid will be the fermentation; because these have a great tendency to undergo this change.

Manures from animal substances generally require no chemical preparation to fit them for the soil. The great object of the judicious farmer will be to blend them with the soil as intimately as possible, to prevent their too rapid decomposition.

Fish forms a very powerful manure in whatever state it is used. Fish contain all the properties necessary for the food of plants, in a very soluble state, which accounts for their powerful effects. The writer has seen a most luxuriant crop of corn, growing on a poor, hungry soil, manured with one small alewive to a hill.

Bones, of late years, have become a favorite manure, particularly in England. The ground on which many bloody battles were fought during the wars in Europe, have been examined, and the bones of the slain, horses and men, carefully collected and exported by ship-loads to Great Britain, where they are ground up and applied as manure; a melancholy and degrading illustration of the passion for war. Bone is formed of earthy salts, the principal of which are found in plants, together with fat jelly, &c., which accounts for its powerful effects.

Urine has been long known as an excellent manure. All kinds of urine contain a large quantity of the elements of vegetables in a state of solution; but during the putrefaction of urine, the greater part of soluble matter is destroyed; therefore, it should be used as fresh as possible, and mixed with earth or water, as it is too strong to form a proper fluid nourisment for plants.

The Dung of birds is among the most powerful manures, particularly that of such birds as feed on animal food, as sea-fowl. The *guano*, which is used extensively in South America, is a substance of this kind: it is used particularly for Indian corn. The dung of birds has been but seldom used in this country, on account of its scarcity: no doubt it might be found on many of the small islands on our eastern coast, and from thence might be transported to the main land with profit.

Night soil, it is well known, is a powerful ma-

nure, and always contains abundance of those principles which constitute vegetable food. The disagreeable smell of night soil may be easily destroyed by quick lime; and if exposed to the air in thin layers, it soon dries, forming a mass easily pulverized and without smell. In this state, it is an article of commerce in France, under the name of *poudrette*.

[*Note.*—Gypsum is a better disinfecting agent than lime to use in case of night-soil intended for manure—as it *absorbs* the ammonia, while the effect of lime is to *set it free.*—*N. E. Far.*]

The dung of cattle, horses and sheep, contains a large quantity of matter soluble in water, which substances are exactly similar to the soluble parts of the vegetables on which they feed and are nourished. The part of dung which is not soluble, appears to be woody fibre. In the treatment of the pure dung of cattle, horses, and sheep, there is no reason why it should be made to ferment, except in the soil—or if suffered to ferment, it should only be in a slight degree, merely to bring on a disposition in the woody fibre to change. [Boussingault, in his recent work, also supports this opinion.] The grass in the neighborhood of recently voided dung, is always coarse and dark green: many persons suppose this to be owing to some noxious quality in green manure, but it is rather the result of an excess of food furnished the grass.—*Scientific Tracts.*

(To be continued.)

VISIT TO THE FARM OF J. S. C. GREEN, Esq.

Effects of Steeping Seed Corn in a Solution of Ammoniacal Salts—Subsoil Plowing—Flower Garden, &c.

We have published, from time to time, the effects of preparing seeds of different kinds, by steeping them in solutions of various sorts of salts, and concentrated manures. From some successful experiments that had been made, it was inferred that such preparation might be of great benefit. We take it for granted that no farmer of common sense will, at the suggestion of a newspaper paragraph, adopt on an extensive scale any new theory that may be advanced, but that a more prudent course will be taken, by trying an experiment on a small scale to begin with, to determine without much expense or much risk, the utility of the practice recommended.

During a brief visit recently at the farm of J. S. C. Green, Esq., Waltham, we were shown by his intelligent and skilful overseer, Mr Robert Murray, the effects of preparing seed corn in the manner above mentioned. He had prepared for him, by a chemist, a composition of nitrate, sulphate, and muriate of ammonia and nitate of soda and potash. In a solution of these he steeped corn from 17 to 140 hours. When steeped 100 hours, the corn vegetated poorly; but when it remained 140 hours, it did not vegetate at all. Having tried the seed in pots, he determined upon the time of 80 hours as the proper time for steeping. He planted a number of strips of three rows each through a large field of 15 acres, and carefully noted on tallies the rows thus planted. When we examined the field, the corn had tasselled out and the ears well set: we could not perceive that the corn that had been subjected to the soaking process, had any advanvantage over the other which had not; but on the contrary, if there was any visible difference, the soaked was not so luxuriant as the unsoaked.

The steeping, in this case, was a complete failure. How the preparation was compounded, we know not.

Benefits of Subsoil Plowing.

The field of corn to which reference has been made, was one of the finest we have seen this season. It was planted in drills, and completely shaded the ground. About one-half of the field was subsoiled, and the other plowed in the usual manner, the sward having been turned over in the fall. That which was subsoiled, was turned over in the spring; with this exception, the two sections of the field were treated precisely alike: the manure spread and harrowed in. The difference between subsoiling and not subsoiling, was very striking. By getting on the fence, we could see over the top of the corn, across the field; and the line where the subsoiling commenced, was distinctly marked in the extra growth of the corn; and as we walked through each portion of the field, the corn on the subsoiled section was much more luxurient and more thickly set with ears, and from present appearances we should judge that from 1-4 to 1-3 more corn per acre would be produced here than where there was no subsoiling. The subsoil in this field is rather porous and light. In the vegetable garden, we were shown the difference in two strips of a dozen rows each of potatoes, between trenching and plowing. From appearances, the crop will be more than double where the ground was trenched. The operation of trenching is expensive; but where a small plot of ground is to be devoted to a kitchen garden or fruit trees, it will be found to be most economical in the long run, to be at the expense of trenching.

Flower Garden.

Mr Murray has displayed much taste in the arrangement of the flower garden, which was laid out by him some twelve years since, and has been under his care during that period. An acre or more is appropriated principally to annuals, which are disposed of in circular, oval, triangular and irregular shaped beds, edged with grass. The plan is very fine, and well calculated to show off to advantage the splendid groups of flowers that are so gorgeously displayed at this season of the year. We have never seen such immense masses of choice annual flowers, and in such perfection. The most conspicuous were Phlox Drummondii, of every variety, Portulacæ Thessuloni and splendens, German Asters, Double Stocks, Petunias in great variety, French Marigolds, Amaranths, Balsams, Verbenas, China Pinks, Candytuft, &c. One of the large copartments is first adorned with a margin of Portulacæ, the two varieties alternating, their brilliant crimson and scarlet flowers contrasting beautifully with the close-shorn grass edging; then a belt of Mignionette; next, a wide belt of Phlox Drummondii, backed with other annuals that have been named, according to height, so that there is a regular gradation from the front to the back of the section, a distance of a number of rods—the whole one blazing mass of flowers, the tallest being the Petunias, of every variety, and these are interspersed with Gladiolus natilensis. The China Pinks are disposed of in one mass, occupying a bed by themselves—mostly fine double varieties. Verbenas of the scarlet and dark red varieties, form a bed by themselves, and those of lighter shades another, and others are intermingled. In another place, the two varieties of Portulacæ occupy different sections of the same. In other beds, beautiful combinations of colors are formed by mixing the different annuals.

The perennial and shrubby plants are planted on the margin of the parterre: one section is devoted wholly to Rhododendrons, Kalmias, Magnolias, and other American plants. Groups of Double Hollyhocks, of every color, are arranged in the edge of the shrubbery. The whole appearance of the garden at the present time, is strikingly brilliant, and reflects much credit on Mr Murray, for his skill and taste.—Ed.

STRAWBERRIES.

Although this fruit grows abundantly in the meadows and fields of Maine, yet it is sometimes convenient for our farmers and mechanics to have a plat of them in the garden, near the house. In this case it is important to cultivate the best, otherwise little will be gained by the labor and attention bestowed upon them.

They are propagated, as almost every one knows, by the runners, which take root every seven or eight inches. Cuttings from these runners should be set out about the middle of this month, (August,) and if proper attention be paid to them, they will take root and become sufficiently vigorous to bear a good crop next summer.

A deep rich loam, a little inclining to moisture, is the most congenial to this fruit, and a fair exposure to sun and light suits it best.

Some pull up the roots that have borne once, and depend upon the young roots for their annual crop. In this way the beds do not get crowded, and there is a free circulation of air, good exposure to light, and the berries not only larger, but more of them.

We suppose Hovey's Seedling is the best variety to be cultivated. It was first raised by the Messrs. Hovey, at their garden, near Boston. The fruit is uncommonly large, very prolific, and of excellent flavor. Mr Downing, in his recent work on fruits, mentions another one, called Ross's Phœnix, first introduced by Mr Alexander Ross, of Hudson, N. Y. This is a very large and prolific variety.

Besides those that run, there are some varieties that do not put out any runners, called "Alpine Strawberries;" and there are some that bear all summer. The fruit of these varieties is not large, nor very valuable for cultivation.—*Maine Far.*

STONE WARE FOR DAIRY PURPOSES.

Few of our farmers are aware of all the advantages of using stone ware in the management of the dairy. It being made of peculiar kinds of clay, which by the action of a powerful heat is converted into stone, should be sufficient to recommend it to every one who has the care of milk. It is well known that the common brown earthen ware, so much in use, is glazed with lead, which will corrode when acted on by an acid, and as cream is very liable to become sour in warm weather, the oxygen that it imbibes from the atmosphere, which makes it sour, must in some degree act upon the lead of the glazed pot, and form the oxide of lead, and render it not only disagreeable to the taste, but very unwholesome.

The stone pot being entirely free from all substances of this kind, and in a high degree a non-conductor, keeps the cream cool and in a pure and sweet state much longer than the glazed pot or a wooden vessel. And for the purpose of packing down butter, the stone pot will preserve every part of it sweet and pure, while the glazed pot or wooden firkin will impart to that portion of the

mass which comes in contact with them, a disagreeable flavor. For the same reasons, the stone churn, for those who have but few cows, is far superior to the old-fashioned wooden article. No one can properly appreciate the difference between stone and earthen ware for these purposes, until he has tried them.—*Maine Far.*

The Hay Crop in Maine.—The Maine Farmer says: "We are happy to state that, although the season was at first very unfavorable for grass, and promised a scanty return, the results are very good. In this vicinity, the crop is nearly as abundant as it was the last season, and the quality is undoubtedly far better."

The Norridgewock Press says: "Vegetation of all kinds along the banks of the Kennebec, looks extremely promising. Hay is likely to turn out as abundant as last year."

A Garden.—No other sort of abode seems to contribute so much to the tranquility of mind and indolence of body. The sweetness of the air, the pleasantness of the smell, the verdure of the plants, the exercise of working and walking, but above all, the exemption from care and solicitude, seems equally to favor and improve both contemplation and health—the enjoyments of sense and imagination. A garden has been the inclination of kings and the choice of philosophers,—the pleasure of the greatest and the care of the meanest—an employment and possession for which no man is too high or too low. If we believe the scriptures, we must allow that God Almighty esteemed the life of man in a garden the happiest he could give him, or else he would not have placed Adam in that of Eden.—*Sir William Temple.*

Horticulture.—If the observation of the beautiful things in nature has a tendency to soften and refine the feelings, the culture of them has a still more powerful and abiding influence. It takes the form of an affection. The seed which we have nursed, the tree of our planting, under whose shade we sit with delight, are to us as living, loving friends. In proportion to the care we have bestowed on them, is the warmth of our regard. They are also gentle and persuavive teachers of His goodness who causeth the sun to shine and the dews to distil; who forgets not the tender buried vine amid the snows and ice of winter, but bringeth forth the root long hidden from the eye of man, into vernal splendor or autumnal fruitage.—*Mrs. Sigourney.*

Save Herbs, as they are occasionally needed in a family. A dish of herb drink, or a decoction of bark or roots, judiciously administered, is frequently more efficacious, and far more safe, than doses of medicine from the apothecary's shop. A good supply of herbs should be provided for every family. Dry them in the shade, as much of their good qualities escapes when exposed to the sun. When dry, put them up neatly in paper bags, label them, and pack closely in boxes or drawers.—*Bos. Cult.*

The Buffalo Courier says that one of the greatest luxuries of life is to have a friend who owns a fine garden, and is willing to supply you with fruit and vegetables. It is a greater luxury to own a garden yourself.—*Mail.*

MASS. HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

EXHIBITION OF FLOWERS.

Saturday, Aug. 9, 1845.

From Samuel Walker, a grand display of Seedling Phloxes, some of them equal to the best of this showy family. One variety named Duttonii, a dark purple, dense-headed variety, a white and a variegated variety, were very fine; also, Roses, &c.

From Azel Bowditch, 10 vars. superb Double Balsams and four bouquets.

From Messrs. Winship, a great variety of showy flowers, annual and perennial.

From Capt. Macondray, German Asters and a variety of other cut flowers.

From Messrs. Hovey, four varieties of new Phloxes, some of them very fine.

From Joseph Breck & Co., a great variety of cut flowers.

From Samuel A. Walker, six bouquets, and cut flowers in variety.

From John Hovey, four bouquets.

From Parker Barnes, a variety of cut flowers.

From Wm. Kenrick, by Miss Russell, a basket of flowers, one large and two small bouquets, cut flowers, &c. Also, a Persian Rose, orange striped with red, (beautiful.)

From J. L. L. F. Warren, one large and seven small bouquets, white Lilies, Gladiolus, &c.

From John Arnold, a great variety of Roses.

From Edward Allen, Pentas carnea, a beautiful green-house plant.

The committee award to J. L. L. F. Warren, a premium of $2, for the best bouquet.

To Miss Russell a premium of $1, for a large bouquet. For the Committee,

JOSEPH BRECK.

EXHIBITION OF FRUIT.

By the President of the Society, Pears, Bloodgood; Plums, Morocca; (fine specimens.)

John Fisk Allen, Salem, very fine specimens of Grapes, viz: Black Hamburg, Golden Chasselas, Wilmot's new Black Hamburg, White Frontignan, Black Prolific, Verdelho, Zinfindal, (very large cluster and highly colored,) Grizzly Frontignan, Variegated Chasselas, Ferral or Black Portugal, (extra fine,) White Chasselas; Peaches—Noblesse, Yellow Rareripe; Figs.

J. Lovett 2d, Beverly, Blackberries, (very superior;) Plums, Morocca, Precoce de Tours? Cross's Seedling, and Red Astrachan.

Hon. J. S. Cabot, Salem, Fondante d' Ete Pears. This is hardly worthy of cultivation.

J. Tileson, S. Boston, a basket of handsome Apricots.

Rob't Manning, Salem, Apples—Dodge's Early Red, Irish Peach, &c.; Pear, Dillon? Plums, Rivers' Seedling, (2d or 3d rate,) Chester, (worthless,) Royal Hative; Cherry, Myrobalaw—very good.

J. L. L. F. Warren, several boxes of good Franconia Raspberries; Williams's Favorite Apples; Sugar-top Pears.

E. Brown, Lynn, fine Jargonelle Pears.

Otis Johnson, Lynn, extra fine specimens of the Early Bough and Red Astrachan Apples.

Cheever Newhall, Dorchester, Curtis's Early Striped Apples and Jargonelle Pears.

A. W. Withington, Red Astrachan Apple.

J. T. Buckingham, Apricots.

W. G. Lewis, Apricots.

Samuel Pond, Plums—Bingham, Apricot, Italian Damask, and Duane's Purple.

George Walsh, Apples.

James Monroe, Cambridge, Sauspeau Pears.

John A. Kenrick, Newton, Royale de Tours Plums.

Parker Barnes, Apricot Plums.

Ebenezer G. Tucker, Milton, Summer Greening Apples.

Mr Batchelder, Cambridge, Catharine Pears (?) or French Jargonelle; River Apples.

Samuel Walker, Franc Real Pears and Precoce de Tours Plums.

Mr Merriam, West Cambridge, Seedling Peaches, of good flavor.

John Washburn, Plymouth, Red Astrachan Apples.

Josiah Gilmore, Newton, Belle de Bruxelles Pears—worthless.

Wm. Richardson, West Cambridge, Peaches—Grosse Mignonne, Yellow Rareripe; Seedling Apricots.

John Arnold, Milton, Grapes, Black Hamburg.

Aaron D. Williams, fine Currants; Pears, Jargonelle, (large and fine,) Sauspeau; Apples, Benoni, Williams's Favorite, River, and other varieties.

J. Nugent, fine Grapes, Black Hamburg; Plums, Pond's Seedling, Early Yellow Gage.

For the Committee, S. WALKER, *Chm'n.*

Vegetables.—One dozen Tomatoes, of extra size, from the well known farm of A. D. Williams, Roxbury. WM. B. KINGSBURY, *Chm'n.*

NEW YORK FARMERS' CLUB.

From the conversation at the meeting of the Club on the 5th inst., we extract the following, as reported in that excellent journal, the N. Y. Farmer and Mechanic:

Mr Kerr.—I wish to submit a few remarks on the important question of manure, and I now state, after having considered well, that it is my opinion our farmers ought to rely upon the resources of their own farms for it, rather than resort to foreign or factitious means. Every farmer can, by proper care and attention, produce at home rich manure, capable of supplying all that his land requires for fertility.

Dr. Underhill.—As to guano, I fear that a great many people will this season be disappointed in it. It is a very powerful stimulant to vegetation, and we all put too much of it on seeds and plants. It is quite as well, however, for us to know where and when it fails. I ascribe failure much to our severe drought. I am sure that guano requires much rain to properly dilute it and give it its due influence upon vegetation. In England, its power is fully acknowledged: there the moisture favors its action. They know nothing of such droughts as we have. I made with guano a good early crop of oats, the drought being less severe then.

Mr Fleet.—In a severe drought, almost any manure as well as guano might fail. Compost of muck, properly prepared, resists the effects of drought best.

Chairman.—I would incorporate guano with muck.

Mr Pike.—Before muck is used with guano, it ought to be perfectly dried.

Mr Kerr.—My friend, Judge Ball, of Hoosick, composted manure with one part of lime, three of dung, and a fifth or sixth of the whole, loamy earth. The lime destroyed not only insects, but the seeds of weeds, and the manure is so rotted by it as to be in that condition when put on the land, which is most useful to the crops.

From the Albany Cultivator.

DISEASE OF THE POTATO.

Mr Tucker—The subject of the disease which last year prevailed so universally among potatoes, is one which has very naturally and properly called out the inquiries and conjectures of many investigators, and as yet no particular cause for its existence seems to have been concluded upon by the mass of cultivators.

Some suppose that the membranes of the leaf are destroyed by an insect, and that the work of decay originates in this cause. But of this theory, (for it is theory, and nothing more,) we are prepared to say, that we saw, (and so did every observing farmer, we must think,) hosts of small black flies infesting potato fields, in years long before we ever heard of the disease in potatoes, and the usual consequence was, that the membrane of the leaf was eaten out, as somebody, in some particular instance, saw it last fall. Then, again, in proof of the innocence of the poor insect in this matter, we must say that we saw with our own eyes, and no mistake about it, leaves of potatoes after they had become dry by the disease, as perfect in all their parts as any potato leaves we ever saw.

Others are of opinion that the cause of the disease is owing to the "influence of a worm at the root;" but we have seen no statement of such animals being found in such locations until the disease had made some progress; so there must be some doubt in the case as to whether the worm does the mischief, or is merely attracted by the consequences of it, to feast on the corruption that ensues.

Last fall, we ventured an opinion on the cause of the disease, which as yet we have found no reason to relinquish; but on the contrary, from the facts we have collected and observations we have made, we have become more tenacious of its correctness. It was simply this: that from some cause which we did not then, and cannot now, define to our own satisfaction, the potato vine was attacked with a *rust*, similar to that we frequently see on the straw of rye and wheat. That in the case of the potato, it first showed itself in a very small blotch on the side of the stalk, which continued to spread until it had gone round and through the stalk, when the latter, at the particular point of disease, became dry and hard as though it had reached its maturity. The death of the top of the stalk of course soon follows, but the lower part remains green for a while. The conjecture (it was mere conjecture,) we threw out, was this: whether the sap which was now stopped by the dryness of the stalk, in its usual channel of circulation, and, of course, prevented from passing into the leaf, its natural laboratory for preparation to return to the tuber and fulfil its accustomed service in giving it nourishment, did not necessarily return prematurely, and either from excess of quantity, or by bringing back some quality which had better been given to the winds, induce the disease in the tubers. Our own potatoes were too far gone to experiment much upon, when we hit upon a single plan to adopt. It appeared to us, as soon as we saw *how* the mischief was progressing, that mowing the tops was the best and perhaps only efficient methed to pursue. A neighbor, whose crop was smitten long after our own, tried this experiment, by mowing about half a field, as soon as the tops exhibited symptoms of the disorder, and the result was satisfactory and cheering. Where the tops were so mown, no appearance of the rot was ever discovered, and the potatoes gave all the evidence of maturity which the circumstances of the case could possibly admit of, while the other part of the field suffered much from the rot as any in the vicinity. Here, then, is one instance in favor of our theory.

Other experiments were tried, of which we shall cite but one or two. In one case, a farmer dug a very few hills when the vines first showed symptoms of disease, and carefully buried them, and let them remain until the usual time of digging, when they were taken out all sound, while most of his crop had suffered essentially. There can be no doubt, we think, that when potatoes are dug so early as the rot came last year, but that they must be put in small bodies and kept cool, and excluded from the atmosphere. Their tendency to heat, and thus become heavy and insipid, warrants us in that conclusion, and so we infer that the letting them remain in hills with the tops taken off, until the usual time of digging, is a much cheaper and better way than to dig and put in cellars, or on floors in piles.

Another course of proceeding which has come under our observation, was adopted by some Irishmen, who had known this enemy to their favorite esculent "in the old country." When they saw the crop smitten, they dug it immediately, and piled the potatoes on the surface of the ground, taking care to guard them from sunshine until the job was completed, when they covered the pile entirely with clay. The result was probably as they had known it to be aforetime. Their crop was saved, and their potatoes of *good* quality. The clay undoubtedly acted as a two-fold agent, kept them cool and excluded the atmosphere and storms.

We have only to say, in conclusion, that if any one can confute any point we have advanced, we shall be happy to have him do it. Truth and light are what we are looking after in this matter, and if we have advanced an error, the public good requires that it should be set right. And especially does the agricultural interest of our country require that this pestilence which made such rapid strides in its advancement the last year, should meet with hot pursuit by every philanthropist, until its progress is stayed, if not effectually stopped.

Yours, truly, W. Bacon.

Mount Osceola, June 22d, '45.

From the same.

CANADA THISTLES.

I was glad to see in a late number of the Cultivator, the remarks on this weed; and more particularly the caution against its introduction into places where it is now unknown; as in this case, an ounce of prevention is worth some forty or fifty tons of cure, at least. A city may be easily preserved from conflagration by allowing no fire to spread; by extinguishing instantly all that appears. The same principle applies to the spread of Canada thistles. A miller refused to employ a skilful embanker to close a muskrat's hole in his dam, because he asked a dollar—a sum he would gladly have paid the next day, when the hole had washed larger—and eventually he had to pay *fifty* dollars, to repair the breach, as the torrent was fast sweeping away his dam. The spread of Canada thistles *must* be stopped, if we continue farming; why not do it then when it may be *easily* done?

I have had some experience in destroying them, and more observation; and I know of no way which will at all compare with thorough and repented plowing.

The first plowing must be left till about the time that the thistles appear in flower, or when they have become considerably exhausted by growth, when they must be *well* and *deeply* turned under, mowing the thistles previously, if necessary to the success of the work. Then they must be again turned under at least once a month till mid-autumn, or thereabouts, when, if the work has been *well done*, the patch will be killed forever, or till the ground is again seeded with thistles from elsewhere. Wheat may be sown on the ground the same autumn. A statement of a few experiments may place this in a clearer light:

Daniel Wilson, of Covington, Genesee co., N. Y., had a patch of Canada thistles so dense that the roots formed a complete mat. "He plowed the ground at regular intervals of four weeks for four successive times, when after the fourth plowing, there was not a thistle to be seen, and the ground was in fine tilth for sowing wheat, loose and nice enough for any garden vegetables; and now, July, 1833, there is a most luxuriant crop of wheat on the old thistle-bed, and not a solitary thistle has been found, although it has been carefully examined by those interested in testing its efficacy."

"I commenced about the first of June," said the late V. Yeomans, of Walworth, Wayne co., N. Y., "and plowed them about once a month, and harrowed them as often, till about the first of October. The result is, their entire destruction, except a few places where the plowing could not be well done."

Augustus D. Ayers, of Romulus, Seneca co., N. Y., says, "The field contained six acres, principally occupied with Canada thistles, on which a Florida war had been waged for twentyfive years or more, with little prospect of success or termination. In the latter part of May, I broke it up, plowed the ground deep four times, and harrowed it in the heat of summer. The result was, it killed the Canada thistles, and my ground is in good condition for after cropping."

An experiment of this kind I also tried myself on about four acres of Canada thistles, by causing the ground to be plowed thoroughly four times during the season. The occupant, who bought the land that year, informed me that none appeared the following season.

The importance of doing the work well, and of cutting off and deeply burying every plant, must be obvious; and the superiority of throwing them so far under the surface as to require a month for them to creep out, over a mere skimming of the surface with the hoe, or cutting them off above the surface with the scythe, must be also evident. A correspondent of the Genesee Farmer, (vol. 4, p. 324,) killed a patch by hoeing them to the surface *twice a week*; but he worked from spring till nearly the first of eighth month (Aug.) before each successive three days crop began to diminish; after which, by closely following their retreat, they rapidly disappeared. But they had a much better chance to *breathe* in this case, being a part of the time above ground, than when kept wholly under by a deep plowing as soon as they made their appearance above the surface. Such treatment would prevent the necessity of taking up and *burning* "every plant and vestige of the root," as Dr. Smith recommends in the article above alluded to, which, in large patches, where the roots often run several feet below the surface, would be wholly impractically; or of pulling up every shoot as soon as it appears, "*for seven or eight successive years*," as Lou-

don recommended—the phrase "as soon as it appears," meaning, probably, from one week to one month, or more; for it is impossible for *any* plant to live *wholly* beneath the surface for half that number of years. J. J. T.

From the London Gardener's Chronicle.

DISCUSSION ON AGRICULTURAL TOPICS.

Tarporley Farmers' Club.—At the annual meeting of this Club, the Secretary read the minutes of the discussions at the last meeting, and then announced the questions to be taken into consideration on the occasion.

1. *What is the Best and Cheapest Way of Wintering Dairy Stock?*—Mr Palin answered—Generally, to feed them on hay, straw, turnips, and mangold wurzel. Mr Vernon had proposed the question in consequence of the circumstances in which he was placed last winter, from the want of fodder, consequent on the dry summer. He had very little fodder by him when the winter commenced, and had been obliged to sell off part of his stock. What then were they to do when hay failed?

Mr Harding said, Mr Corbett had collected 300 bushels of acorns, and used them during the winter for the cattle. They were not crushed, and some difficulty had been experienced in keeping them from sprouting, but they answered remarkably well. Mr Corbett had weighed the fodder for his horses; he gave them half a cwt. of clover hay, a bushel of oats, and a little cut straw, per week, and the horses appeared to be in capital condition, and did their work well. With respect to steaming fodder, he was of opinion that if it was coarse, steaming was useful; but if the hay was good and well harvested, it appeared to be a needless expense.

Mr Palin agreed with Mr Harding in his remarks on steaming fodder. Cattle were very nice in their eating, and if they found a bad lot of hay, they would reject it. When steamed, a pleasant flavor was imparted to the inferior sort, and the cattle would eat it. Of course, there was considerable expense in this process, and in years when fodder was good, he thought the outlay was not called for. He should recommend them to have plenty of turnips at hand for the cattle to eat with the straw, and a few with the hay and corn.

Mr Vernon had generally fed his cattle, in his extremity, with cut straw, ground barley, and potatoes.

Mr Stones mentioned a plan adopted by Mr Corbett, of which he had seen the good results. That gentleman used two-thirds of straw, one-third of hay, with a little ground barley, well steamed. It thus swelled out and made a deal of good fodder; and if it was beneficial in a time of scarcity, he did not know why it was not beneficial at other times.

The President said a neighbor's cows looked better on hay than on straw and turnips.

After a few more observations, the result of the conversation on the first question, was recorded in the following resolution:—"That straw and turnips are the best and cheapest for the first part of winter, and as the season progresses, half the quantity of turnips with hay and a little grain; and in a season of scarcity, or a bad harvest, ordinary fodder with steaming and cutting, is recommended."

Question 2. *To what crop is it most advisable to apply liquid manure?*—Mr Davis replied, to grass land; Mr Burgess said, to green crops; Mr Palin said, to both, if used at the proper season. The general opinion of the meeting seemed to be, that properly mixed or diluted, it was useful to grass lands, but there were no farmers present who had fairly tested its utility on green crops.

Question 3. *What are the results of Guano as compared with Bone manure?*—Mr Warburton said he had tried it on potatoes, turnips, and grass land, against bones. On the potatoes he had put 5 lbs. of the African guano to the square rood (64 yards,) and the produce was about 3 cwt. 39 lbs. to the statute acre more than on boned land. On the grass land he put the same quantity of guano, and double the value in bone manure. The crop of hay was small: where the guano was put there was a little, where the bone was laid there was none at all. This scarcity arose from the dryness of the season. The after-grass where the guano had been applied, was three times as much as that on the land dressed with bone; and the cattle gave a decided preference to the grass grown on the guano. With respect to the present appearance of the land, he had no hesitation in saying that the guanoed portion looked much better than the boned.

Mr Burgess had used guano on wheat without benefit; he had also tried it on clover. The first crop there was no rain, and he perceived no beneficial results; but the second crop was better than on the manured land.

Mr Palin had expected great results from guano, but on the whole had been disappointed. He tried 100 lbs. of guano mixed with farm-yard manure, against 300 lbs. without mixing it, on turnip land. The turnips from the guano alone were not above two-thirds of the weight of the others. He had also tried it on meadow-land with turnips; they grew and thickened rapidly, but when drawn, the bulbs were small, and the crop was anything but a heavy one. Last year he tried it on an acre of carrots—2 cwt. of guano to the acre; he drilled the ground and shut the guano up. The season was unfavorable, and the carrots were hardly worth drawing. He had made another experiment between farmyard manure and guano, on mangold wurzel, and the crop was three times as great on the yard manure as on the guano. On the whole, Mr Palin seemed to think guano a very dangerous manure, in unskilful hands.

The members did not record any resolution on this question.

EXPERIMENTS WITH GUANO.

The Hon. J. A. Pearce, of Kent co., Maryland, in a letter to the editor of the American Farmer, says—"I tried guano this spring upon my wheat, oats, corn and grass crops, and with so good effect, that I wish to make some extensive experiments this fall. If I can get it on the same terms, I will dress 15 or 20 acres of wheat with it in September next. On wheat and oats the result was very striking. All my orchard grass and timothy lots have been dressed with it, but I cannot speak so certainly of its adaptation to these grasses, though they have yielded a better cutting than my neighbors have on better land. The corn was only lately manured with it, and there has not been sufficient time to develop its effects on that. Could I be assured of its improving the land for more than one or two years, I should think it invaluable. I remarked that the young clover, which was generally much injured by the long droughts of the spring, was quite fine on the guanoed land. When my crops have all been gathered and thrashed, I will report my experience in detail, and you can publish it if you think fit.'

EFFECT OF A STRAW TOP-DRESSING.

We gave in our last, a number of experiments which had been tried in England, with straw as a top-dressing. These experiments, so far as they went, were highly satisfactory, and gave assurance that whatever might be the peculiar *modus operandi* by which straw thus applied acted, its effect was highly salutary in urging forward vegetation and increasing the products of the crops upon which it had been tried. Since then, we have made an experiment ourself, which proved so efficacious, and illustrated the benefit derived so conclusively, that we feel justified in stating it, in order that it may encourage others to test the utility of the practice.

In the beginning of May last, having a few seed of a variety of the *Cantaleupe* called the *Alicant Sweet Melon*, we prepared a couple of hills with great care as to manuring, digging, and the pulverization of the soil, and planted the seed: they came up promptly and looked healthy, but from the very onset of their coming up, the vines failed to grow, and up to the 28th of June, the largest had not covered a space in circumference bigger than a breakfast plate. Anxious to promote their growth, we had repeatedly resorted to watering with dung tea, followed by dustings of ashes and plaster, but all to no purpose. On the day we have named, we covered the hills about half an inch deep with cut straw, and had the satisfaction to see the vines grow off almost immediately with vigor; they put out numerous runners and blossomed profusely in a few days. The largest hill of vines will now, this 19th of July, cover a space in circumference of many feet, and is fruiting as finely as we could desire. That the application of the straw changed the habits of the vines, we have not the slightest doubt, though we are not prepared to state the why and the wherefore—the effect, however, was too striking for us to resist the only rational conclusion to which our mind could arrive, viz: *that the straw did make the vines grow.* The location of the hills is close by a brick wall, with a southern exposure, and it may have been, that the reflection from the wall, as acted upon by the rays of the sun, so abstracted the moisture from the earth as to render it too arid to be promotive of vegetable growth; but this unfriendly effect we obviated to a certain extent, by watering the vines just at sundown, during the prevalence of the drought, at least thrice a week. This attention kept them in a green and healthy condition, so far as appearances went; but notwithstanding all we did up to the application of the straw, we could not make them grow. The straw, by preventing evaporation, preserved the moisture of the earth about the vines; and it may be, that to that mechanical agency we are indebted for the good results we have detailed. But be that as it may, we should be over skeptical were we not to ascribe them to the salutary influence of the straw, and we should be equally skeptical were we not to yield to the conviction that top-dressings of straw, hay, leaves, and similar substances, may be rendered eminently useful in the culture of the earth.—*Amer. Farmer.*

An unparalleled drought has prevailed for some time past in Virginia, and the worst fears are entertained for the corn crop.

A young man near Rochester, N. Y., died on the 1st inst. from eating wild parsnip root—a deadly poison.

NEW ENGLAND FARMER,
AND HORTICULTURAL REGISTER.

Edited by Joseph Breck.

Boston, Wednesday, Aug. 13, 1845.

VISIT TO THE FARM OF HON. DANIEL WEBSTER, Marshfield.

We have been gratified by a visit to the farm of this distinguished statesman, and had the pleasure of holding converse with him as a farmer in his retirement, and who by his urbane and friendly manner makes one almost forget that he is in the presence of one of the greatest intellects of the age. As a public man, he is well known, but not as a citizen and "the Farmer of Marshfield"—at home, on his farm, or among his neighbors. Here the mind is unbent—the stirring scenes of political life are apparently thrown aside and forgotten, and the farmer may approach him on equal ground, and however experienced he may be in the one pursuit of his life, he will find Mr Webster at home on the subject of agriculture, with a disposition as ready to impart, as he is to receive information, on a business which appears to be more his pleasure than his profit. But if his farming does not result in pecuniary profit, he has the satisfaction—which, in a mind like his, is prized far higher than pecuniary gain—of countenancing and encouraging by his example, the great agricultural interests of the nation, as well as by the influence he exerts on all suitable occasions to promote them.

His farm is extensive, and that we might have the best opportunity to see every part of it, his foreman with a carriage, was at our service, to take us over it, and explain the various operations and experiments that are in progress. Mr Webster also devoted a portion of the time we remained on the farm, in pointing out to us the improvements he had already made, as well as those he had in contemplation, and related many interesting incidents in the history of the family of the original proprietors of his farm, and of events which transpired in the early history of this ancient town.

The original grant of land, of which this farm is a part, was made to a man by the name of Thomas, and embraced a tract of four or five thousand acres, which remained in possession of the family until the Revolution. The Mr Thomas then proprietor, was one of the King's councillors, and being unwilling to join in the revolution, he found himself in an unpleasant situation, and the British commander, who was then in possession of Boston, sent down a company of regulars to protect him; but this made matters worse: the high-toned whig spirit of old Plymouth county was greatly exasperated by the presence of the red-coats, and Thomas was alarmed for the security of himself and family, as his house, garrisoned by the King's troops, was in danger of being taken by storm by the incensed population, and he wisely decided that the troops should be withdrawn, which was done, and he fled to Halifax, his wife and son choosing to remain on the spot, where they stayed during the Revolution, unmolested. She then joined her husband at Halifax, leaving the son behind. The property, however, had been confiscated; but for the benefit of Mrs Thomas and son, 300 acres, on which the house stood, had been set off to her as a dower. After the restoration of peace, and party feeling had subsided, young Thomas, who had remained peaceably disposed, and rather favored the whig cause, petitioned the General Court that the portion of his father's estate which had been set off to his mother, might be confirmed to him, stating as reasons that his father had left honorable debts due to the citizens, which it was his desire to discharge; and furthermore, that he had sympathized with the revolutionists, and was ready to take the oath of allegiance, &c.; his neighbors and townsmen joining him in the petition. It was granted. This 300 acre lot is the nucleus of Mr Webster's farm, and was purchased from a descendant of Thomas, of the same name, about 14 years ago. Since that time, various purchases have been made of contiguous estates, and at the present time, Mr Webster's farm contains about *fifteen hundred acres.*

This large area embraces a great variety of soil, about 300 acres of it salt marsh, the remainder very diverse: some portions of it may be considered of first quality, other sections medium, and some of it rather inferior; but none so poor that good crops cannot be produced with good manuring. The situation is a fine one for a stock farm—and if good prices for good beef and mutton could be obtained, it might be a profitable farm for that purpose. What adds much to the value of the place is, the facility with which sea manure can be obtained. It is said that there are seven miles of beach, reckoning all the indentures and various outlines of the shore which skirts the farm. Here large quantities of kelp are annually obtained, and in some seasons, white fish to any extent are caught. With these natural resources so near at hand, the farm is rapidly increasing in value and productiveness. Wherever these fertilizing substances have been applied, their beneficial effect is obvious. A large portion of the farm is devoted to pasturage, which feeds not only Mr Webster's large stock of cattle, but many others of his neighbors, which are pastured by the week or by the season.

The mansion house of Mr Webster makes quite an imposing appearance as it is seen from the road, having recently been fitted up, and large additions made to the old part, which was originally a square house, two and a half stories high, with a wing extending back: a wing containing a suit of rooms, including a spacious library, has been added, making an extensive front, with a piazza the whole length, extending round the ends of the building and part of the rear. The old and new parts of the building harmonize very well. Comfort, convenience and neatness, are more conspicuous in the arrangement, than any effort at display. The mansion is situated 30 or 40 rods from the public road, and is approached by a broad drive way, bordered by a hedge and belt of trees and shrubs. In front of the house is a fine lawn of five or six acres, dotted with trees in groups and single, and ornamented near the dwelling with fanciful beds of flowers, cut out in the smooth sward. But the most striking object which meets the eye at first sight, is a majestic elm tree, near the east corner of the house, which forms a complete bower. It stands on an oval grass plot, which makes a fine carpet for the bower. At a distance of eight or ten feet from the ground, the branches extend in every direction horizontally, gently curving over till they rest upon the green-sward, excepting on the side next the house, where it has been necessary to cut out some of the lower limbs, that carriages may pass to the eastern door. The branches on this side nearly touch the house, and form a complete canopy to this entrance. The longest diameter of this tree-bower is 94 feet—perhaps 70 the other way. Seats are arranged around the tree, near the trunk, where is a most delightful retreat, especially in such a day as was that when we enjoyed its shade, the thermometer indicating the heat as near 90°. The tree is said to have been planted 80 years ago.

The section of the farm on which the house stands, contains about 40 acres, and is bounded on three sides by a wide belt of young trees, through which there is a winding walk. In this area are included the lawn in front; to the west, the orchard; in the rear, grass, and a large fish pond, ornamented with a boat moored upon its surface, which an apprentice boy, while engaged in painting the house, took a fancy to convert into a mimic man-of-war; to the east, an extensive fruit, vegetable, and flower garden, of 3 or 4 acres; and beyond this, a conical hill, crowned with a summer house. When we visited this farm five years ago, this hill had the appearance of a miserable gravel-knoll, with a few stinted shrubs and trees. It was now covered by a luxuriant growth of young trees and shrubs, from 10 to 12 feet high—among them many locust and other trees which had been raised from seed, and other species which had been transplanted. The belts had been formed in the same way. In rear of the garden, and at the foot of the hill, is an extensive poultry yard, well stocked with every variety of domestic fowls, with a pond for the accommodation of the aquatic tribes. In the rear of the house, at the N. E. angles, are carriage houses, stable, and other outbuildings, and a little further back, a large and well constructed barn.

From the piazza of the house, beyond the belt of trees, and on rising ground, in a westerly direction, the eye rests upon extensive fields of grain, roots, &c.; southerly, a sheep pasture, in which we saw the Leicester sheep, and further to the east, woodland.

The house of the head farmer is seen to the east, as the visitor enters the avenue to the mansion, and back of it extensive ranges of cattle-yards, piggery and sheds, and another fine large barn, now in the process of building, and nearly finished. There is no cellar under the barn, but Mr Webster has hit upon a method to save every drop of the liquid manure, and in the best possible way. The planks composing the floor of the cattle's quarters, or *byre*, as the Scotch call it, are laid with an opening between them of about one-half inch, and so arranged as to be easily taken up. The idea is to place about two feet of loam, or other earth, under the floor: this will absorb all the liquid part of the manure as it runs down through the openings, and in the spring will be converted into the finest manure, when it is to be removed and replaced by fresh mould. Instead of having the upper part of the barn tight, he has purposely had it finished with crevices between the boards above the byres, to admit the air; but the byres are made tight by battens nailed on the inside. Instead of losing all the room over the drive-way, as is the case in barns generally, there is a flooring over two-thirds the length, leaving room for a large load of hay on the floor below, a door being provided for the oxen to go out at the end of the drive-way, while room is thus made for at least 20 tons of hay more than if the barn was finished in the usual way. Byres are arranged on each side of the drive-way, and yards are being made on each side of the barn, so that the stronger cattle may be kept by themselves, and prevented from injuring the weaker. The yards are so arranged as to receive the sun, and protected by sheds from cold winds. In addition to the two large barns we have mentioned, we noticed others at distant points from the mansion.

We shall give an account of the crops, stock, manures, &c. in our next.

Information Wanted.—Neighbor Buckminster, in the Ploughman of the 2d inst., recommending the plowing of land this month to destroy worms, observes—"Take the miller while in its *insect state*," &c. Some one, to us unknown, requests us to ask neighbor B., "What *other* state beside the '*insect*,' is a miller ever in?"

The question is not put to *us*, but if it were, we should be "nonplussed" for an answer—except we replied, the *State of Massachusetts.*

☞The article headed "Stirring the Earth a Relief against Drought," copied into our last, was inserted three weeks previous. We did not discover its second insertion till after the paper had been put to press.

☞We had a most timely and refreshing fall of rain in this vicinity on Monday last, which was of great benefit to the crops.

☞Attend to budding, ditching, draining, and compost making.

THERMOMETRICAL.

Reported for the New England Farmer.

Range of the Thermometer at the Garden of the proprietors of the New England Farmer, Brighton, Mass. in a shaded Northerly exposure, to the week ending Aug. 10.

Aug., 1845.	7 A.M.	12, M.	5, P.M.	Wind.
Monday, 4	58	81	74	S.
Tuesday, 5	64	85	75	N. E.
Wednesday, 6	66	87	73	E.
Thursday, 7	66	84	74	E.
Friday, 8	66	88	78	E.
Saturday, 9	72	91	76	E.
Sunday, 10	71	89	73	S. E.

BRIGHTON MARKET.—Monday, Aug. 11, 1845.

Reported for the N. E. Farmer.

At market 900 Beef Cattle, 4200 Sheep and 1700 Swine. 100 Beef Cattle and 1000 Sheep unsold.

Prices.—*Beef Cattle*—We quote Extra $5.25. First quality $5. Second quality, $4,25 a 4,75. Third quality, $3 a 4.

Sheep.—"Dull." Lambs from $1,25 to 2. Old Sheep from $1,50 to 2,25.

Swine.—Former prices were not sustained. We reduce our quotations. Shoats, to peddle 3 1-2 a 3 5-8 for Sows, and 4 1-2 a 4 5-8 for Barrows. Old Hogs 4, 4 1-2 and 4 3-4. At retail from 4 to 5 1-2.

WHOLESALE PRICES CURRENT.

Corrected with great care, weekly.

SEEDS. Herds Grass, $1 75 a 2 00 per bushel. Red Top 50 to 60 cents. Clover—Northern, 9 to 10c.—Southern, 8 a 9c. Flax Seed. $1 50 per bushel. Lucerne, 33 c. per lb. Canary Seed, $1 50 a 2 00 per bushel. Millet, 1 75 to 2 00.

GRAIN. The receipts of Corn during the past week were moderate, and sales readily effected at the quoted rates.

Corn—Northern, new, bushel 54 a 55—Southern, round yellow, 52 a 54—Southern flat yellow, 51 a 53—do. do white 49 a 50—do New Orleans, 49 a 48—Barley 00 a 00—Rye, Northern, 65 a 70—do. Southern, 63 a 68—Oats, Southern, 38 a 40—Northern do. 00 to 00—Beans, per bushel 1 12 a 1 62.—Shorts, per double bush. 00 a 00—Bran, 00 a 00.

FLOUR. The stock of Flour in New York and Albany is said to be considerable. Southern continues very heavy, and prices depressed.

Baltimore, Howard Street, 4 mos. cr. new, $4 50 a 0 00—do. wharf, $4 50 a 0 00—do. free of garlic, $0 00 a 0 00—Philadelphia do. 4 mos. $0 00 a 0 00—Fredericksburg, low l'd new $4 37 a 0 00—Alexandria, wharf, 4 25 a 4 37—Georgetown, $4 50 a 4 62—Extra do. 5 00 a 5 25—Richmond Canal, $0 00 a 0 00—do. City, $6 00 a 0 00—Petersburgh, City, $0 00 a 0 00—do. Country $0 00 a 0 00—Genesee, common, cash, $4 37 a 4 75—do fancy brands, $4 87 a 5 50—Ohio, via Canal, $4 25 a 4 50—do do New Orleans, cash $0 00 a 0 00. Rye, $3 25 a 0 00—Indian Meal in bbls. $2 12 a 2 25.

PROVISIONS There has been a continued activity in the market during the past week, chiefly for New York supply.

Beef—Mess 4 mo. new bbl. $9 50 a 10 00—Navy—$8 75 a 9 25.—No. 1, $0 00 a 0 00—do Prime $6 00 a 6 50—Pork—Extra clear 4 mo. bbl. $14 50 a 00 00—do Clear $13 75 a 14 00 do. Mess, $12 00 a 13 00—do Prime $10 25 a 10 75—do Mess from other States,— a — —do Prime do do $0 00 a 0 00 do. Cargo do. 0 00 a 0 00—Clear do do $00 00 a 00 00—Butter, shipping, 12 a 15—do store. uninspected, 8 a 12—do dairy, 15 cts. a 17—Lard, No. 1, Boston ins. 8 a 8½—do South and Western, 8 a 8½—Hams, Boston, 8½ a 9—Southern and Western, 8¼ a 8½—Cheese, Ship'g and 4 meal 6 a 8—do new milk, 7¼ a 8¼.

WOOL. Duty. The value whereof at the place of exportation shall not exceed 7 cts. per pound, 5 per cent. adval. All whereof the value exceeds 7 cts. per pound, 40 per ct. ad. val. and 3 cts per pound.

Fleece Wool of the new clip continues to come in freely, and sales of several small lots have been made during the past week.

Prime or Saxony Fleeces, washed, lb. 38 a 40 c.--American full blood, do 35 a 37--Do. 3-4 do 33 a 35—Do. 1-2 do 31 a 33 -1-4 and common do 28 a 30—Smyrna Sheep, washed, 20 a 22--Do. unwashed, 10 a 15—Bengasi do 6 a12--Saxony, clean, 00—Buenos Ayres unpicked, 7 a 10—do. do. picked, 10 a 14—Superfine Northern pulled lamb 36 a 38—No. 1 do. do. do. 34 a 35—No. 2 do do do 23 a 25—No. 3 do do do 14 a 17.

HOPS. Duty 20 per cent.

The growing crop in the New England States is represented as looking well, with a fair propect now of a good yield.

1st sort Mass. 1844, lb. 00 a 00 ; 2d do 0 a 0.

HAY, 12 to 12½ per ton—Eastern Screwed $12 to 00.

EGGS, 12 to 14.

STRAWBERRY PLANTS.

The subscribers can furnish all the most desirable varieties of *STRAWBERRY PLANTS* now in cultivation.

AMONG THEM ARE

Swainstone's Seedling,	Elton Pine,
Ross's Phœnix,	Bishop's Orange,
British Queen,	Keen's Seedling,
Hovey's Seedling,	Early Virginia,
Myatt's Seedling,	Downton, English Wood, &c.

☞ Plants will be packed to send any distance.

Gentlemen who intend to form new plantations, are reminded that the month of August is the most suitable time of the year to do it. All orders will be promptly attended to, and good plants sent. J. BRECK & CO.

Boston, Aug. 5. Nos. 51 & 52 N. Market street.

HERDS GRASS OF EXTRA QUALITY

The subscribers have received a few tierces of extra fine *HERDS GRASS SEED*, perfectly free from all foul seed, which they can confidently recommend to farmers for August sowing. Also, their usual supply of good *GRASS SEED*, of all kinds. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

Nos 51 & 52, North Market street, up stairs.

Boston, July 29, 1845.

2000 SUPERB TULIP BULBS.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO. offer for sale the celebrated and costly bed of Tulips imported for the Public Garden, and pronounced by competent judges to be the finest collection in this country. The subscribers obtained the Massachusetts Horticultural Society's premium of $8 for the best thirty distinct varieties which were taken from this bed. They will be sold at the very low price of $3 per dozen, which is not one half the cost of many single bulbs in the collection. There never was a better opportunity for amateurs to indulge themselves with a bed of these truly splendid flowers. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

Nos. 51 & 52, North Market street.

Boston, July 29.

HOWARD'S PREMIUM SUBSOIL PLOWS.

The sub oil low is unquestionably the most importan agricultural implement of modern invention. It is considered by the best informed practical farmers of Great Britain and our own country, as an indispensable article in the most profitable husbandry. Says that eminently skilful and intelligent agriculturist, Mr. Phinney, of Lexington: "such is the estimate in which I hold this important implement, that I should consider it a great piece of improvidence to put in a crop without first subsoiling the ground." The subsoil Plows manufactured by Mr. Howard, are of two sizes—the smaller obtained the highest premium offered by the State Agricultural Society at its late exhibition at Worcester. The committee to award the premium on Subsoil Plows, in their report say:—"The committee were pleased with the neatness and firmness of structure of these Plows—characteristics which have distinguished all the Plows of Mr. Howard that have come within their observation. *Utility* and not *show*, are their peculiar features. * * They were astonished to find with what ease and perfection the hard pan could be stirred, and broken to the depth and width of 8 or 9 inches, for such was the operation of the medium size Plows, with a power not exceeding that ordinarily required for moving a surface Plow at the same depth—and they found the Plow might be guided with less labor and fatigue than the surface Plow. * * They confidently recommend the subsoil Plow to the attention of the farmers of the Commonwealth"

The improvement in the length of the handles of Mr. Howard's Plows, suggested by the committee, has been made—and the undersigned are now prepared to furnish these invaluable implements wholesale and retail.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

N. E. Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, 51 & 52, North Market Street, Boston.

WILLIS'S
Latest Improved Vegetable Cutter.

For sale at the New England Agricultural Warehouse, No. 51 and 52 North Market Street, Boston, Willis's Latest Improved Vegetable Cutter. This machine surpasses all others for the purpose of Cutting Ruta Baga, Mangel Wurtzel, and other roots. The great objection to other machines, is their cutting the roots into slices, which makes it almost impossible for the cattle to get hold of them: this machine with a little alteration, cuts them into large or small pieces, of such shape as is most convenient for the cattle to eat. It will cut with ease from one to two bushels of roots per minute. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

Nov. 1.

ROLLERS.

For sale at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, 51 and 52 N. Market Street, Cast Iron, Stone, and Wooden Rollers—of different sizes and prices.

Aug. 13, 1845. J. BRECK & CO.

HORTICULTURAL TOOLS.

A few cases of superior Horticultural Tools, for gentlemen or ladies' use For sale by JOS. BRECK & CO., 51 and 52 North Market Street.

REVOLVING HORSE RAKE.

The Revolving Horse Rake has been in general use in most parts of Pennsylvania and New Jersey, and is found to be one of the most useful labor saving machines now in use. One man and horse, with a boy to lead, will rake on an average from 25 to 30 acres per day with ease, and do the work well. There is a great advantage in this rake over all others, as the person using it does not have to stop the horse to unload the rake.

For sale at Nos. 51 & 52 North Market Street, by

June 17. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

GRAIN CRADLES.

The Grain Cradle is an article which is coming into very general use in the New England States where they were till of late but little known, although they have been in very general use in the southern and western States, for many years, and which is found to be decidedly the best mode of harvesting grain, as it is supposed one man will cradle five acres in a day when he cannot reap more than one. The difference in gathering a crop is so much in favor of cradling, that we must suppose that it will be the only mode adopted hereafter, and the grain cradle will become of as much use as an implement of husbandry, as the plow now is.

There has been a very great improvement in the manufacturing of this article, they are now made on the most improved plan; the scythe is well secured and finished in a superior manner and made of the best cast steel.

For sale at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store. JOSEPH BRECK & CO,

May 7.

DURHAM BULL FOR SALE.

A full blood Durham Bull, from the stock of G. Vail, Esquire, of Troy. A very fine animal, and now one year ten months old.

Also, a Bull Calf of the same stock, five months old,—may be seen at the Farm of John Clarke, sen., on the Worcester Turnpike, in Brookline April 15.

Guano! Guano!

Just received and for sale in lots to suit purchasers, 20 tons African and South American Guano, of superior quality, the best ever brought into this market. The African, which is part of the cargo of the brig Samos was analyzed by one of the first chemists of this country, and pronounced to be of the first quality; it has been fairly tested by many of the farmers and gardeners in the vicinity of Boston, and has fully equalled their highest expectations. We can fully recommend the South American, which has also been carefully analyzed, and found to be a splendid article, and very superior, being free from stones and hard substances. For sale by the ton, bbl. or bag. Orders addressed to JOSEPH BRECK & CO., 51 and 52 North Market street, will be promptly attended to.

Boston, March 25, 1845.

CORN SHELLER.

A Corn sheller is one of the most convenient and labor saving implements that the practical farmer has in use. Various machines for this purpose have been invented. It can be used in all cases for large or small sized ears. It is very simple in its construction, and durable in its operation, and no way liable to get out of order; one man can work it to good advantage, though a man to turn, and a boy to feed it, works it much better than one alone. They are so light and portable, as to be easily removed from place to place, and one machine will serve for several families or even the inhabitants of a small town.

For sale at the Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store Nos. 51 and 52, North Market Street.

JOS. BRECK & CO.

GRINDSTONES ON FRICTION ROLLERS.

Grindstones of different sizes, hung on friction rollers and moved with a foot treader, are found to be a great improvement on the old mode of hanging grindstones. Stones hung in this manner are becoming daily more in use, and wherever used, give universal satisfaction. The rollers can be attached to stones hung in the common way. For sale by J. BRECK & Co., No. 51 North Market street.

NOTICE.

The full blood imported Ayrshire Bull WALLACE, (with pedigree complete,) will be at my farm in Chelsea, for a short time, for the use of a few Cows.

BEN. SHURTLEFF, Jr.

May 28, 1845.

HOES,

Of different patterns, for sale at the New England Agricultural Warehouse, 51 and 51 North Market street, by

May 21. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

GEDDES'S HARROW.

This excellent implement, considered a great improvement on all other kinds, is for sale at the N. England Agricultural Warehouse, 51 and 52 North Market street, by

May 21. J. BRECK & CO.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Truths Fitly Spoken.—We do not know from whence the following excellent sentiments originated, or we would give the credit where it is so justly due; at any rate, we desire that its sterling truths should be read and treasured up in every parent's and every patriot's heart in the land.—*U. S. Journal.*

Which will you do?—One of two things must be done in this country. Parents must spend money to educate their children, or they must pay taxes to build and support penitentiaries for the punishment of crime. There is a great mistake about what is called education. Some suppose a learned man is an educated man. No such thing. That man is educated who knows himself, and who takes accurate common-sense views of men and things around him. Some very learned men are the greatest fools in the world: the reason is, they are not *educated* men. Learning is only the means, not the end: its value consists in giving the means of acquiring the discipline necessary to the mind. Some of the greatest men the world has produced were not overstocked with learning, but their actions proved that they were thoroughly educated. Washington, Franklin, and Sherman were of this class. To be educated, a man must learn to think, reason, compare and decide accurately. He may study metaphysics till he is grey, and languages till he is a walking polyglot, and if he knows nothing more, he is an uneducated man. There is no class in the country who have a larger interest in the education of their children than farmers; and they should realize the responsibility that rests upon them, and give the subject the attention it deserves.—*Exch. pap.*

☞True,—and as the farmers, in point of numbers, compose the ruling power in this country, how important is it, for the national interests, both present and future, that they should be duly and rightly educated, so that they may exercise their influence for the best in directing the administration of government, both State and National. None are engaged in a nobler calling than they who are endeavoring to diffuse the benefits of education among the people. Strengthen their hands and cheer their hearts. Let the schoolmaster be honored as he deserves. "Uneducated mind is educated vice"—and, as says that devoted laborer and eloquent pleader in the cause of education—Hon. Horace Mann—"*Ignorance in a republic is a crime.*"—N. E. Far.

A Great Unknown (says the St. Louis Reveille,) in an exchange paper, thus relates in very touching verse, the opposite fates of two early friends. The tale has a great moral:—

One took a paper, and his life
Was happier than a king's;
His children all could read and write,
And talk of men and things.

The other took no paper—and
While strolling through a wood,
A tree fell down upon his crown,
And killed him—as it should.

Had he been reading of the news
At home, like neighbor Jim,
I'll bet a cent that accident
Would never have happened him.

"You are always in a *bustle*, Lizzy."
"It's the fashion, ma."

Expressing One's Feeling.—Some boarding-school misses, accompanied by their governess, were one day walking in a garden, when one of the young ladies, stooping over a bed of wall-flowers, exclaimed to her companions that it had "the sweetest smell she ever felt."

"How can you be so vulgar?" said the governess. "Can you *feel* a *smell?* Is it hard or soft, pray?"

A few minutes afterwards, the governess stumbled and fell. Her pupils assisted her to rise, hoping she was not hurt.

"I am afraid," she said, "that I have sprained my wrist—I feel a great pain in it."

"*Is it hard or soft*, ma'am?" demurely asked the young lady aforesaid.

Sound Philosophy.—At a recent examination of a school in N——, Essex county, one of the committee proposed the following questions to a boy who was studying Natural Philosophy:

"Can you explain the principles of adhesion? (Boy hesitates.) What keeps your body together?"

Ans. "Wittles and drink."

"What are the uses of a lever?" (Boy is nonplussed.) "If you had a log in the ditch, how would you get it out?"

Ans. "I'd hitch on a yoke of cattle."

The committee man "giv up."

Bolted.—An unfortunate landlord, going round to collect his rents, sent his servant forward to prepare his tenants for his visit. On reaching the residence of one, he found his servant taking a survey. "What's the matter, John," said he, "is the door bolted?" "No sir," said John, "*but the tenant is.*"

An old hard-shelled minister observed in a late sermon, that "no one ever got religion in a *great bustle!*" Think of this, ladies!

Perseverance and *shovels*, says a *dig*-nified cotemporary, will remove mountains. Impudence and *tin* will do the same.—*Mail.*

HOWARD'S IMPROVED EASY DRAUGHT PLOUGH.

Great improvements have been made the past year in the form and workmanship of these Ploughs; the mould board has been so formed as to *lay the furrow completely over turning in every particle of grass or stubble, and leaving the ground in the best possible manner.* The length of the mould board has been very much increased, so that the Plough works with the greatest ease, both with respect to the holding and the team. The Committee at the late trial of Ploughs at Worcester, say,

"Should our opinion be asked as to which of the Ploughs we should prefer for use on a farm, we might perhaps say to the inquirer, if your land is mostly light and easy to work, try Prouty & Mears, but if your *land is heavy, hard orrocky,* BEGIN WITH MR. HOWARD'S."

At the above mentioned trial the Howard Plough *did more work, with the same power of team, than any other plough exhibited.* No other turned more than twentyseven and one half inches, to the 112 lbs. draught, while the *Howard Plough turned twentynine and one half inches, to the same power of team!* All acknowledge that Howard's Ploughs are much the strongest and most substantially made.

There has been quite an improvement made on the shoe, or land side of this Plough, which can be renewed without having to furnish a new landside; this shoe likewise secures the mould board and landside together, and strengthens the Plough very much.

The price of the Ploughs is from $6 to $15. A Plough sufficient for breaking up with four cattle, will cost about $10 50, and with cutter $1, with wheel and cutter, $2 50 extra.

The above Ploughs are for sale, wholesale and retail, a the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store Nos. 51 & 52 North Market Street, by

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

MARTIN'S MASSACHUSETTS PREMIUM EAGLE PLOWS.

The subscribers have for sale at their extensive Agricultural Warehouse, No. 51 & 52 N. Market street, *MARTIN'S MASSACHUSETTS PREMIUM IMPROVED EAGLE PLOWS.*

Mr. Martin's Plows combine new and important improvements adapting them to the different qualities of soil and the various modes and systems of culture His Eagle Plows, as improved, are much longer, the mouldboard, landside and point, or share, all extended without any addition to the width or heel in its work; thus adapting this Plow to the more perfect turning under of the greensward, and inverting of the furrow-slice, so desirable in greensward plowing. The principle of these Plows is such, from where the furrow-slice is received upon the mouldboard to where it leaves it, that it enables the Plow to take up the furrow-slice with the greatest possible ease, bearing equally and lightly over the whole surface of the mouldboard, turning it over with the least possible bending or twisting, and preserving it flat, smooth and unbroken, laying the furrow-slices closely and compactly side by side, and creating but slight friction upon the face of the mouldboard in passing through the soil. Thus the Plow requires but very little power of draft beyond what is necessary to cut out the furrow-slice.

In testing the quality of Plows, the power by which it is moved, the ease with which it is handled, and the manner in which it completes the work, are three important points, all of which are wisely, accurately and judiciously preserved in these improved Plows.

The character of these Plows for ease of draft and management, and the excellence of their work, though well established in the minds of the farming community, were most fully and satisfactorily exhibited to the public at the grand trial of Plows by the Massachusetts Agricultural Society, at Worcester, October 9th, 1844, whose able and impartial committee awarded the highest premium of $50 to B. Martin, for the best Plow, for doing the best work with the least draft, in a trial open to the whole Union—this Plow running in its natural course, and keeping its true position, without any effort of the plowman, and turning a furrow 12 inches wide and 6 inches deep, with a much less draft than any other Plow on the ground.

These Plows, as improved, are considered to be nearest to perfection of any implements of the kind in this country, as well in respect to material and workmanship, as in form of construction.

At the late Cattle-Show and Plowing-Match of the Worcester County Agricultural Society, in the heart of that most valuable agricultural county, B. Martin's Plow received the highest and most enthusiastic commendation from intelligent and experienced practical farmers, who know and are the most competent judges.

His castings are of a superior kind, the workmanship not inferior to any other Plows in this country, and his timber being the very best of white oak; and every farmer knows that good timber in his Plows is of the utmost importance—all of which in fact renders B. Martin's Plow the very article every farmer wants. The high character of these Plows is abundantly sustained by a continued and extended patronage, which the manufacturer hopes by his efforts and exertions to retain Being himself an experienced Plow-Maker he will not spare any exertions in order to render his Plows a superior article.

Gentlemen are requested to call and examine these Plows before they purchase. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

Boston, March 24.

NEW ENGLAND FARMER,

A WEEKLY PAPER.

Terms, $2 per year *in advance*, or $2 50 if not paid within sixty days.

Remittances, *not exceeding ten dollars*, at any *one time*, may be made as follows:—A subscriber owes us two or eight dollars, which he wishes to remit us. He will pay this amount to the Post Master *in his own town*, and take his *receipt* for it. as money paid him on *our* account. He will then send that *receipt*, enclosed in a letter *to us*. We pass it to the Post Master in Boston, and get the money for it. This arrangement does away with nearly the whole risk of making remittance, and puts every subscriber in possession of "suitable funds" for that purpose.

TUTTLE AND DENNETT, PRINTERS,
21 SCHOOL STREET.